

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing, and reconsideration and further examination of the subject application, in view of the amendments above and the remarks below, are respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

By the above amendments, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate subject matter from claims 14 and 17. Accordingly, claims 14 and 16 have been canceled, and conforming amendments have been made in claims 15 and 17.

In addition, non-elected process claims 23-42 have been canceled.

Thus, upon of the foregoing amendments, claims 1-13, 15, and 17-22 will remain pending in the application. Of these, only claims 1-10, 15, and 17-22 are currently under consideration. Claims 11-13 stand withdrawn for being directed to non-elected species.

Claim Rejection – 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

In the Office Action, claims 1-10, 14-16, and 18-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publ. No. US 2005/0186263 to Bae et al. ("Bae"). For the following reasons, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Bae does not disclose or suggest each feature of the presently claimed invention. For example, Bae does not disclose or suggest a block copolymer composition that has been end-capped with an acid end-capping reagent selected from the group consisting of a cyclic anhydride; a multifunctional acid selected from the group consisting of terephthalic acid, isophthalic acid, and adipic acid; an ester of a multifunctional acid; a multifunctional acid chloride; and an ester of a multifunctional acid chloride.

In contrast to the present invention, the block copolymers of Bae are conjugated with folic acid. See, e.g., paras. [0124] and [0125]. Folic acid is not among the multifunctional acids recited in the present claims.

Thus, Bae does not disclose or suggest each feature of the present claims. Accordingly, there's no *prima facie* case of anticipation, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In summary, Applicants believe the application to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejection(s), remove all rejections, and pass the application to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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